



Montague Selectboard

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MONTAGUE MICRO-ENTERPRISE COVID RECOVERY ASSISTANCE

5/13/2020

The Town intends to engage the Franklin County Community Development Corporation (FCCDC) to administer this new small business (forgivable) loan program in support of the continued operation or re-opening of small businesses that are dealing with the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The goal of this program is to make funds available to small businesses disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic until they are able to access the other programs and/or restore revenue streams and cash flow.

Microenterprise Assistance (forgivable loans) to small businesses, in operation for at least three months as of March 10, 2020 with 5 or fewer employees [including the owner(s)], will be available to owners whose household income is less than 80% of the HUD median income. Loans of up to \$5,000 will be given for up to three months of business expenses (payroll, salaries, health care, rent, mortgage interest, inventory, equipment and working capital), forgivable 120 days after issued as long as business provides documentation that the funds have been spent in line with the presented budget and the owner certifies that they have not received nor will they receive funds for these expenses from other funding programs.

Consistent with the Community Development Block Grant guidelines, the following are the eligibility criteria:

1. Business must be a for-profit business located in Montague.
2. Business must have been in operation on December 10, 2019 and have had continuing operations through March 10, 2020.
3. Businesses must have 5 or fewer current employees [including the owner(s)] at the time of application.

The Town of Montague is an equal opportunity provider and employer

4. Business owner's household income must be less than 80% HUD median income (adjusted by household size).

	Persons in Household							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gross income less than 80% AMI (80%) Income Limits (\$)	49,700	56,800	63,900	70,950	76,650	82,350	88,000	93,700

5. Business must either be open as an essential business or intend to reopen as allowed by guidance issued by the Governor's Orders.

6. Business must have annual gross sales of at least \$20,000.

7. Priority will be given to businesses with brick and mortar operations in Montague.

8. Funds will be available on a first come, first served basis. Timing is based on when the complete initial application is received with all the requested documents.

The Town intends to expand the program to support businesses of 10 employees or fewer employees in the near future once additional funds are received from the federal CARES act.

On Monday, May 18, 2020 at 6:30 PM the Town of Montague will hold a public hearing (via remote connection) to discuss re-programming approximately \$56,000 from a FY19 Community Development block Grant toward the Montague Microenterprise Covid-19 Recovery Assistance Program. Login/call information is available via the event listing on the [Montague Calendar](#). Written comments can be received addressed to planner@montague-ma.gov until 3PM on Monday May 18.

The Town expects to begin accepting applications the week of Tuesday May 26, 2020.

For more information, please see the [Town of Montague Website](#). If you wish to receive direct notifications from the Town about these small business assistance programs, please email your contact information to planner@montague-ma.gov or call (413) 863 3200x 112.